

Europaudvalget (2. samling) EUU alm. del - Bilag 413 Offentligt

L)J)AOJOMU L)JOMAN EMBASSY OF GEORGIA

N 10/75-38

The Embassy of Georgia in Copenhagen presents its compliments to the Folketing and has the honor to submit the original of the letter of H.E. Mr. David Bakradze, Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia, addressed to H.E. Mr. Thor Pedersen, President of the Folketing.

The Embassy would appreciate the assistance of the Folketing to transfer the above mentioned letter to its high destination.

The Embassy of Georgia in Copenhagen avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Folketing the assurances of its highest consideration.



Copenhagen, 1 September, 2008

encl.: 2 pages

The Folketing Copenhagen



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

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Dear colleague,

As you are already aware, the Russian Federation is carrying out full-scale occupation of Georgia. It is even more concerning that the blatant encroachment upon the sovereignty of an independent state is accompanied by large-scale atrocities against its population.

In order to underline the brutality of the Russian actions, let me draw your attention to the fact that along with military and industrial facilities Russia has been conducting military operations, including indiscriminate aerial bombings, against population centers of Georgia.

Tbilisi, the capital of the country, as well as the cities of Kutaisi, Gori, Kaspi, Kareli, Marneuli, Bolnisi, Zugdidi, Poti, Oni, Khelvachauri, Khashuri, Senaki, and Dedoplistskaro have been targeted. Though already extensive a list, this represents by no means the exhaustive record of Russian military actions against the civilian population of Georgia. Bombing of hospitals suffices to demonstrate how "highly" regarded are the human lives for the Russian Federation.

As a substantial part of the Georgian territory is occupied by the Russian forces, ethnic cleansing against Georgian population is in full swing. Thousands of civilians have fled to escape brutal and inhumane treatment.

Against such a grave background, the blockade of strategic cities and the seizure of the main highway by the Russian military threaten to bring about humanitarian catastrophe.

I call upon the international community to use all means at its disposal to stop the occupation of Georgia by the Russian Federation and to bring an end to all-out ethnic cleansing of the Georgian population.

It is extremely cynical that acting under the pretext of protecting peaceful population of South Ossetia, the Russian military actions included ruthless bombing of Tskhinvali and nearby villages, claiming numerous lives of peaceful Georgian and Ossetian residents.

Moreover, the Russian Federation seized the current conflict as an opportunity to wrest another region, Upper Abkhazia, from the jurisdiction of the Government of Georgia.

Mr. Thor Pedersen Chairman of the Parliament of Denmark The aggression perpetrated by the Russian Federation against Georgia once again manifests that Russia has no moral or other right to continue as a mediator or peacekeeper in the conflict regions of Georgia.

I urge you to exert pressure upon the Russian Federation. The ongoing occupation of Georgia has to be immediately stopped. The conflict in the Tskhinvali region as well as in Abkhazia must be peacefully resolved in accordance to the principles of international law, which upholds the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.

I firmly believe that strong support on the part of your state will be instrumental in ending the Russian aggression and paving way for result-oriented peace efforts in the conflict regions, with active engagement of the international community.

Sincerely yours

David Bakradze